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WARDEN MESSAGE – HOLIDAY CELEBRATORY FIRE AND PRISTINA STRAY DOG CULL

The U.S. Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia, provides the following important information, courtesy of_Embassy Pristina, to U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Kosovo.

Celebratory Fire

Fireworks are used frequently throughout Pristina, particularly over the holidays. Celebratory gun fire is also common and normally increases significantly during the holidays. The U.S. Embassy reminds all U.S. citizens to exercise caution when outside over the holiday period. Serious injuries or death have occurred as a result of stray bullets from celebratory gun fire. It is strongly advised that U.S. citizens remain indoors to watch fireworks, especially on New Year's Eve, and avoid large crowds where individuals are engaged in celebratory gun fire over the holiday period, which extends through Orthodx Christmas on January 7.

Stray Dog Cull

The Pristina Municipality will be culling stray dogs from 2400 to 0700 hours every evening for the next seven to 10 days. The Municipality uses firearms for the cull, disinfects the site after culling the animal, and transports and buries the animals afterwards. If you have a pet, ensure they are secured inside your residence and avoid walking during these hours since this operation may pose a safety hazard as well.

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the <u>U.S. Embassy's</u> website and the <u>U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website</u>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information can be found. The U.S. Embassy also encourages U.S. citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad," which can be found on the Department's Consular Affairs website and includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the <u>State Department's travel registration</u> website. <u>U.S. Embassy Pristina</u> is located at 30 Nazim Hikmet St. in the Arberia/Dragodan area of Pristina. The telephone number is (381) 38-5959-3000. You may also contact the consular section of Embassy Pristina via <u>e-mail</u>. <u>U.S. Embassy Skopje</u> is located at Samilova 21, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia. The Embassy can also be reached via telephone (389) (2) 310-2000, and via the consular section's <u>e-mail</u>.